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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, NRO STAFF

SUBJECT: Study of Radar Imagery

You are requested to plan a study of the problem of interpreting imagery from synthetic-array (side looking) radars. The principal interest in these studies is in images having a resolution of 25 feet or better, and in military targets appropriate to that resolution. An important intelligence objective is to sense changes in air and naval order of battle, changes in major transport activity, and the presence of heavy military equipment. Tests should determine how well this objective can be met, and what kind of base of primary data is required.

It will be necessary first to learn what studies have already been made, to determine what imagery is now available - e.g. from [redacted] - for possible further analysis, and what radars are now operating that could be used for gathering further data. Army and Navy sources should be examined, as well as Air Force. When this information is assembled, I will want to discuss plans for such studies as seem required.

Brockway McMillan
Director
National Reconnaissance Office